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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited this day, January 23, 2004, with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

AMY SHIPLES

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This paper responds to a non-final Office Action, mailed September 23, 2003. A one-month extension of time is being filed with this paper. Thus, this response is timely. Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.